



692 US \$1.50
CAN \$1.95
OCT 93 UK 70p



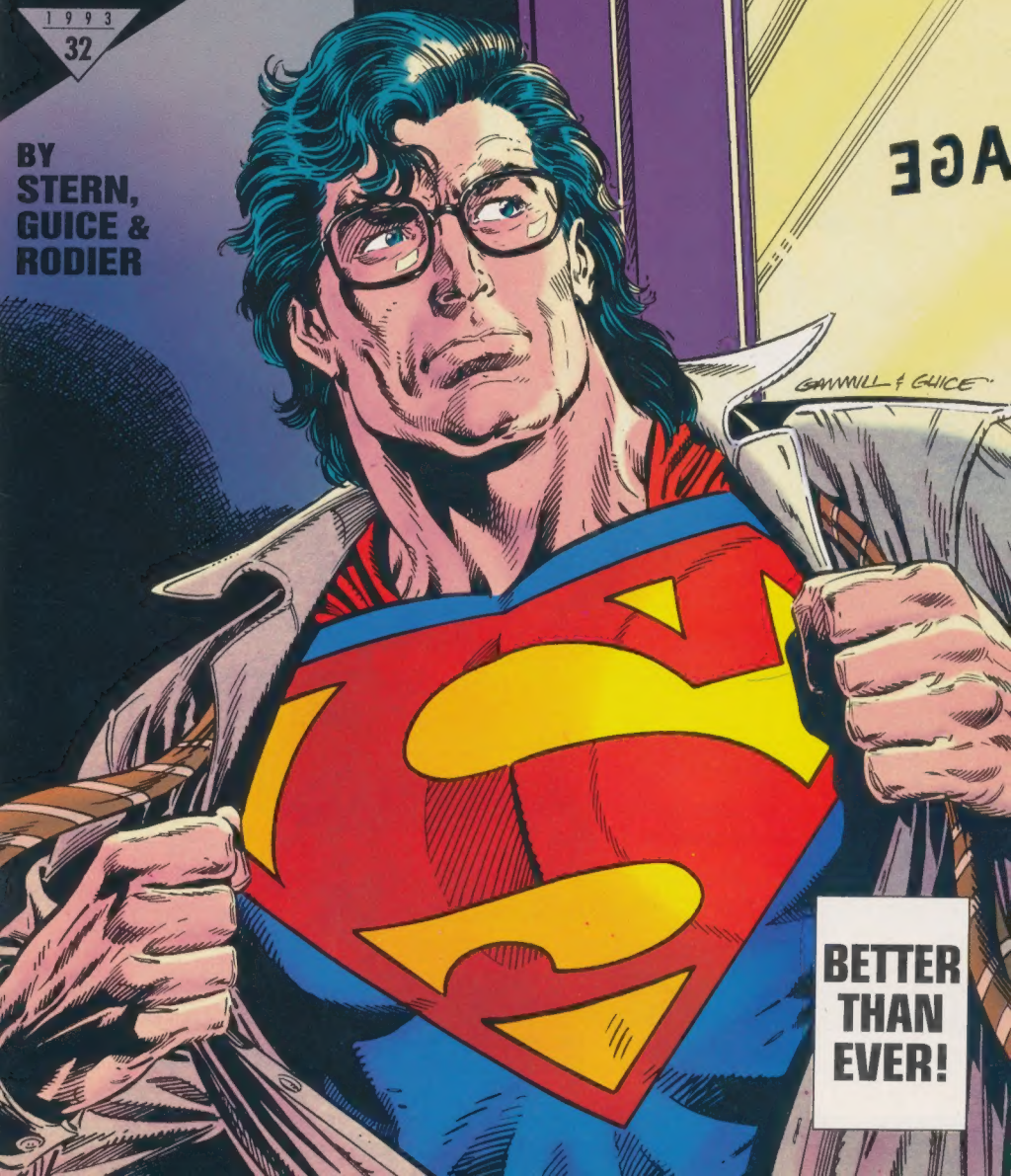
1993

32

BY
STERN,
GUICE &
RODIER

SUPERMAN[®]

IN ACTION COMICS[®]



**BETTER
THAN
EVER!**



GET READY TO EXPERIENCE A MILESTONE.

COMING IN JULY. MILESTONE: THE DAKOTA UNIVERSE[™] TRADING CARDS FROM SKYBOX.

- ▲ An exclusive 100-card set that introduces on cards the newly created Dakota Universe.
- ▲ More than 60 different characters from all four Milestone Media titles.
- ▲ Learn unrevealed secrets of comic book's exciting new multicultural universe.
- ▲ The comics are already a proven success.



*Indicates a trademark of Milestone Media, Inc. All other titles, characters and names are trademarks of DC Comics.
© Milestone Media, Inc. 1993. Produced and distributed by SkyBox International.

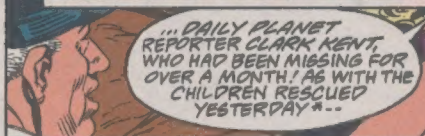
SUPERMAN

...I KNEW
YOU'D SAVE
ME!

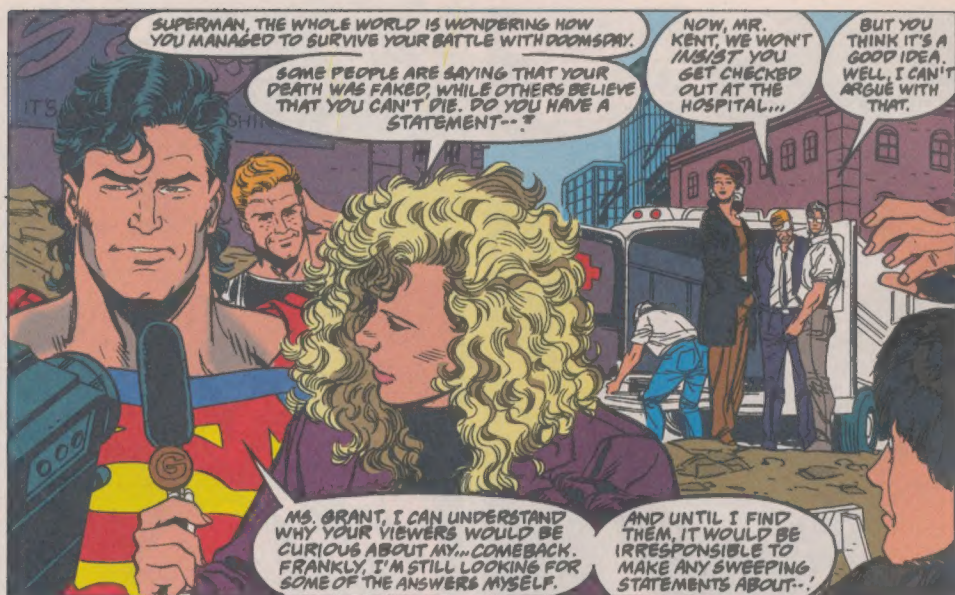
AND WHO, DISGUISED AS CLARK KENT?

ROGER STERN - WRITER * KARL KESSEL - CO-PLOTTER
JACKSON GUICE & DENIS RODIER - ARTISTS * ALBERT DE GUERMAN - LETTERER
GLENN WHITMORE - COLORIST * FRANK PITTARESE - ASSOCIATE EDITOR
MIKE CARLIN - EDITOR SUPERMAN created by JERRY Siegel & JOE SHUSTER

ACTION COMICS 692, October, 1993. Published monthly by DC Comics, 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ACTION COMICS, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 6528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate \$18.00. Canadian subscribers must add \$8.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125921072. All other foreign countries must add \$12.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1993 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. For advertising space contact: Tom Ballou, (212) 656-6520. Printed on recyclable paper.
Printed in Canada.
DC Comics: A Division of Warner Bros. - A Time Warner Entertainment Company







SUPERMAN, THE WHOLE WORLD IS WONDERING HOW YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE YOUR BATTLE WITH DOOMSDAY.

SOME PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT YOUR DEATH WAS FAKED, WHILE OTHERS BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN'T DIE. DO YOU HAVE A STATEMENT--?

NOW, MR. KENT, WE WON'T INSIST YOU GET CHECKED OUT AT THE HOSPITAL...

BUT YOU THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA. WELL, I CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT.

MS. GRANT, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY YOUR VIEWERS WOULD BE CURIOUS ABOUT MY... COMEBACK. FRANKLY, I'M STILL LOOKING FOR SOME OF THE ANSWERS MYSELF.

AND UNTIL I FIND THEM, IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE TO MAKE ANY SWEEPING STATEMENTS ABOUT...



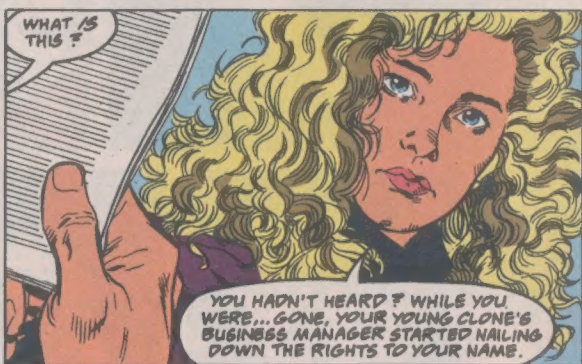
J- JUST A MINUTE! YOU CAN'T CALL THAT MAN SUPERMAN!

OH, NO! NOT HIM AGAIN!

EH?

THE SUPERMAN TRADEMARK IS HELD BY REX LEECH ENTERPRISES. YOU ARE TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ALL USAGE OF THE NAME IMMEDIATELY...

... PLEASE ?



WHAT IS THIS ?

YOU HADN'T HEARD ? WHILE YOU WERE... GONE, YOUR YOUNG CLONE'S BUSINESS MANAGER STARTED NAILING DOWN THE RIGHTS TO YOUR NAME.



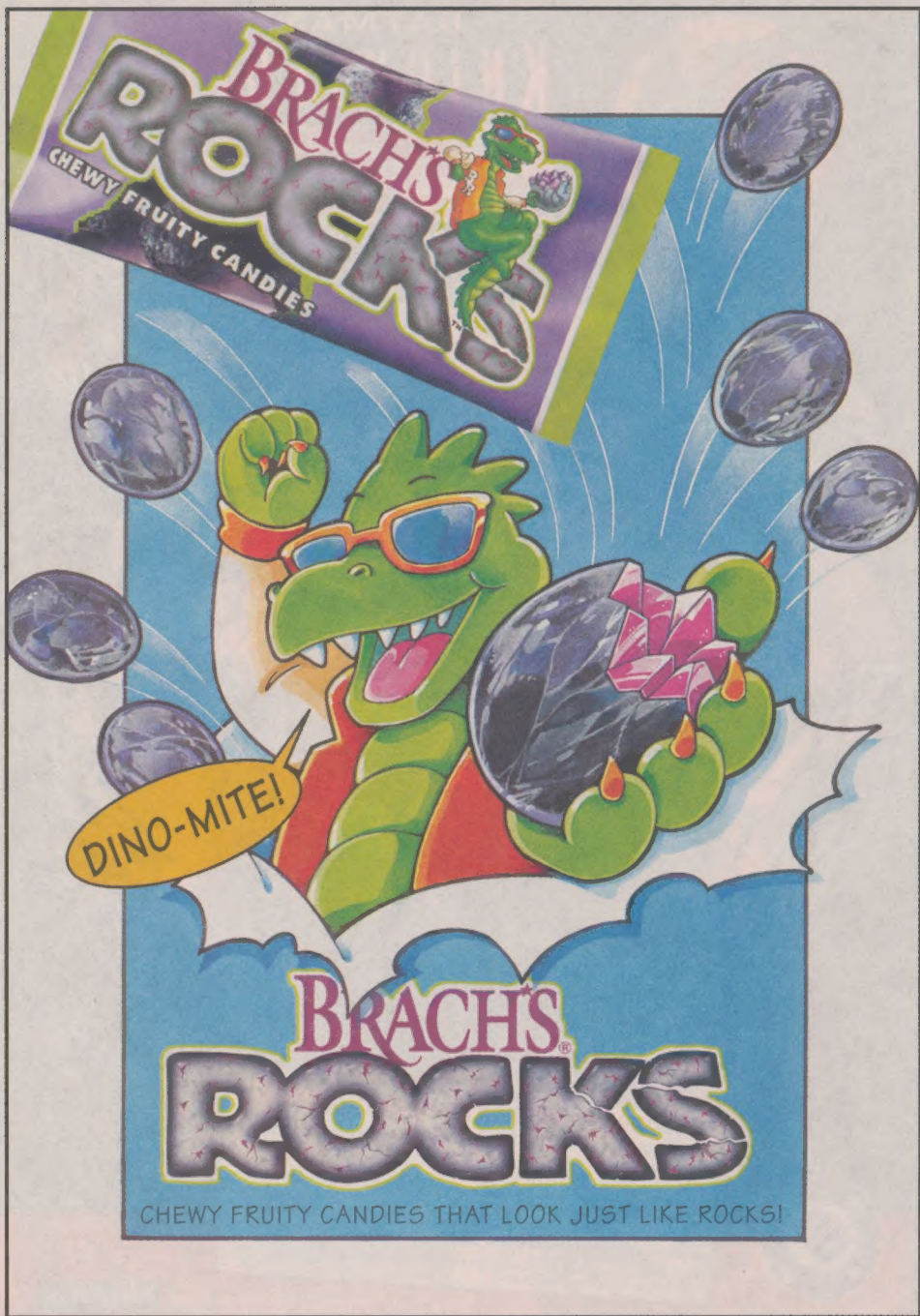
SO I SEE. I'VE GOT TO HAVE A TALK WITH THAT BOY.



DO YOU INTEND TO CHALLENGE THE TEEN SUPERMAN'S CLAIMS IN COURT ?

COURT ?!

SURELY IT WON'T COME TO THAT. WILL IT ?





BATMAN™ KNIGHTFALL

SkyCaps*

FROM SKYBOX



INTRODUCING BATMAN KNIGHTFALL SKYCAPS™

- ▲ The amazing Batman Knightfall story, now featured on SkyCaps and released to coincide with *Batman* #500!
- ▲ 54 UV-coated collectible milk caps!
- ▲ Four bonus foil-enhanced SkyCaps feature exclusive original artwork of Batman in his spectacular new costume!
- ▲ One bonus, specially enhanced Batman Knightfall SkyCap Slammer!
- ▲ Individually sealed and numbered cases guarantee a limited production run!

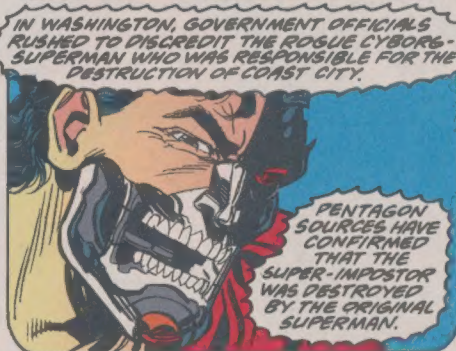
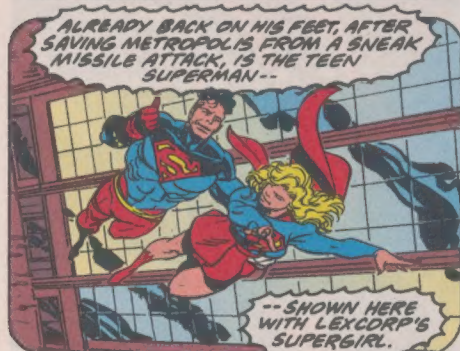
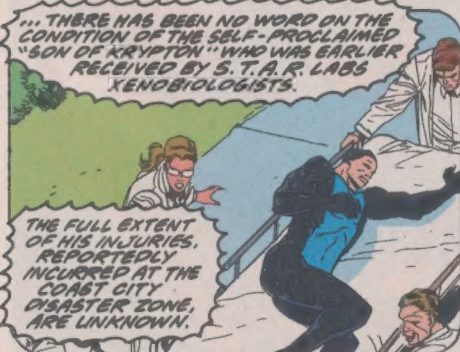
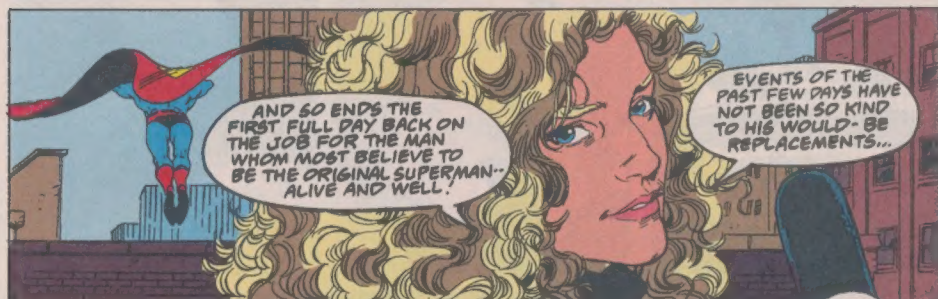
Odds of finding bonus SkyCaps 1:9. Knightfall SkyCap Slammer 1:36.
SkyCap Slammer replaces two SkyCaps.



TM & © 1993 DC Comics Inc.

*Indicates TM SkyBox International. **skyBox** INTERNATIONAL

© 1993. Produced and distributed exclusively by SkyBox International.



AND IN CALIFORNIA, A SPECIAL JUSTICE LEAGUE TASK FORCE RETURNED FROM AN UNSPECIFIED SPACE MISSION TO TAKE OVER MOP-UP OPERATIONS IN THE DISASTER ZONE.



LEAGUE RESERVIST CAPTAIN MARVEL SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE TASK FORCE...

WE CAN BUT INCREASE OUR VIGILANCE, TO DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO SEE TO IT THAT SUCH A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN.

THE DEPTH OF OUR SORROW FOR THE SURVIVING FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE VICTIMS OF COAST CITY IS BALANCED ONLY BY OUR RELIEF THAT THE REAL SUPERMAN IS BACK AMONG US.



OTHER LEAGUE MEMBERS WERE LESS FORTHCOMING...

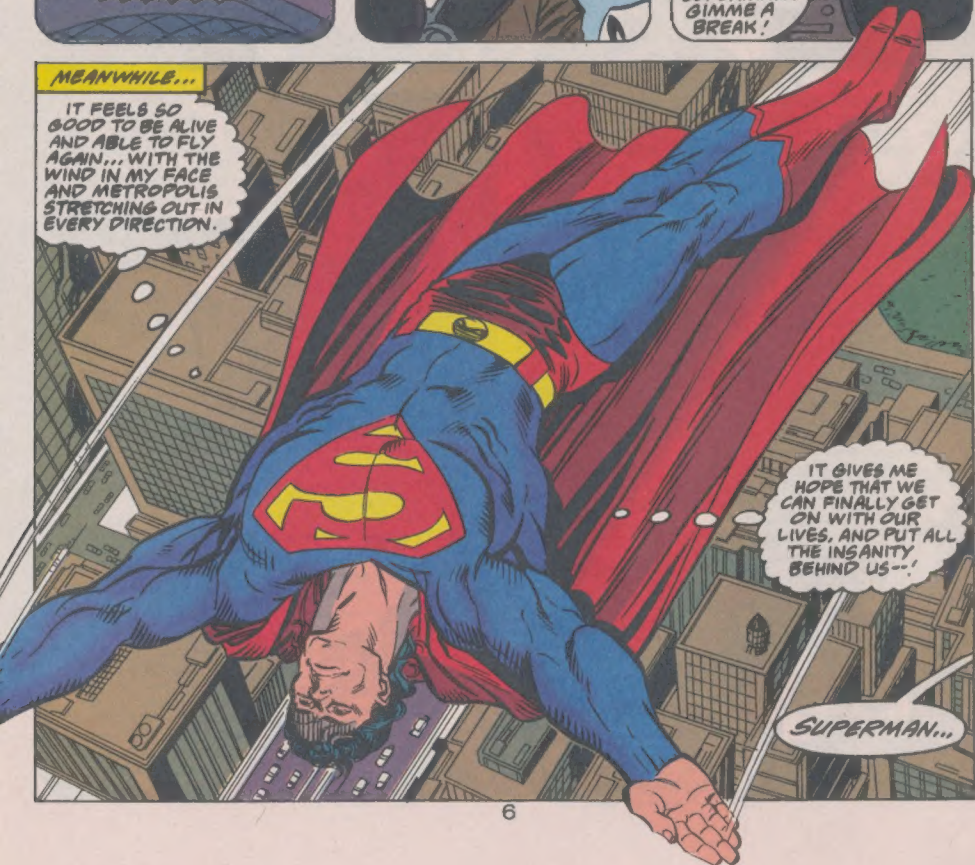
HEY, GET THAT CAMERA OUTTA MY FACE!



SO I PICKED THE WRONG SUPERMAN! GIMME A BREAK!

MEANWHILE...

IT FEELS SO GOOD TO BE ALIVE AND ABLE TO FLY AGAIN... WITH THE WIND IN MY FACE AND METROPOLIS STRETCHING OUT IN EVERY DIRECTION.



IT GIVES ME HOPE THAT WE CAN FINALLY GET ON WITH OUR LIVES, AND PUT ALL THE INSANITY BEHIND US--!

SUPERMAN...



"I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!!"

THE AMPLIFICATION ISN'T NECESSARY, LUTHOR. I CAN HEAR YOU FINE WITHOUT IT.

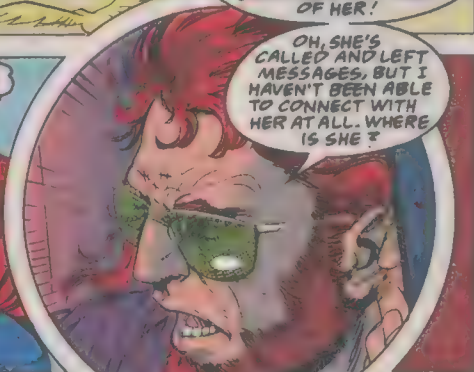
IS THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?

YES, YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE DONE WITH MY SUPERGIRL. SINCE SHE WENT WALKABOUT WITH YOU PEOPLE TO THE WEST COAST, I'VE HARDLY SEEN HIDE NOR HAIR OF HER!



YOUR SUPERGIRL?

WELL, LEX, SHE HAS BEEN BUSY. WE ALL HAVE. I CAN'T TELL YOU MUCH MORE THAN THAT. I'M HARDLY SUPERGIRL'S KEEPER...



OH, SHE'S CALLED AND LEFT MESSAGES, BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONNECT WITH HER AT ALL. WHERE IS SHE?



... AND NEITHER ARE YOU!

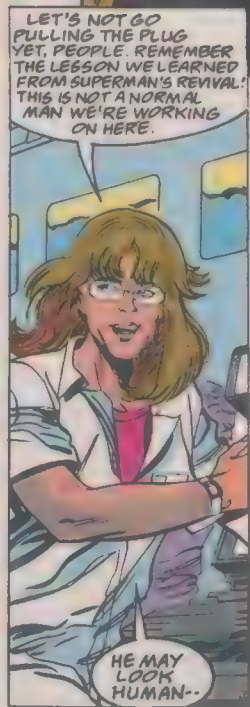
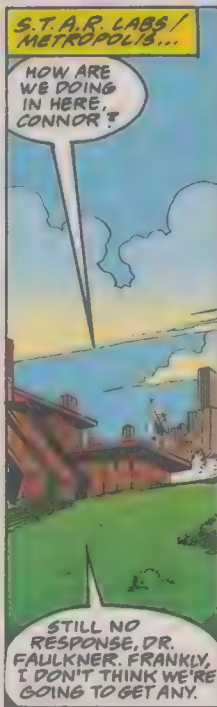
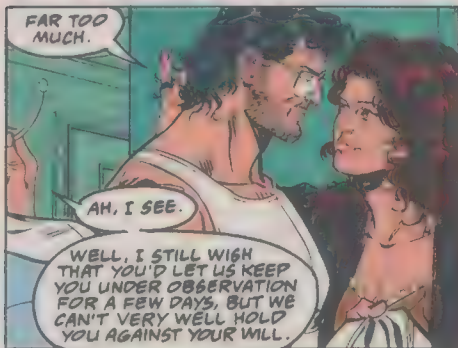
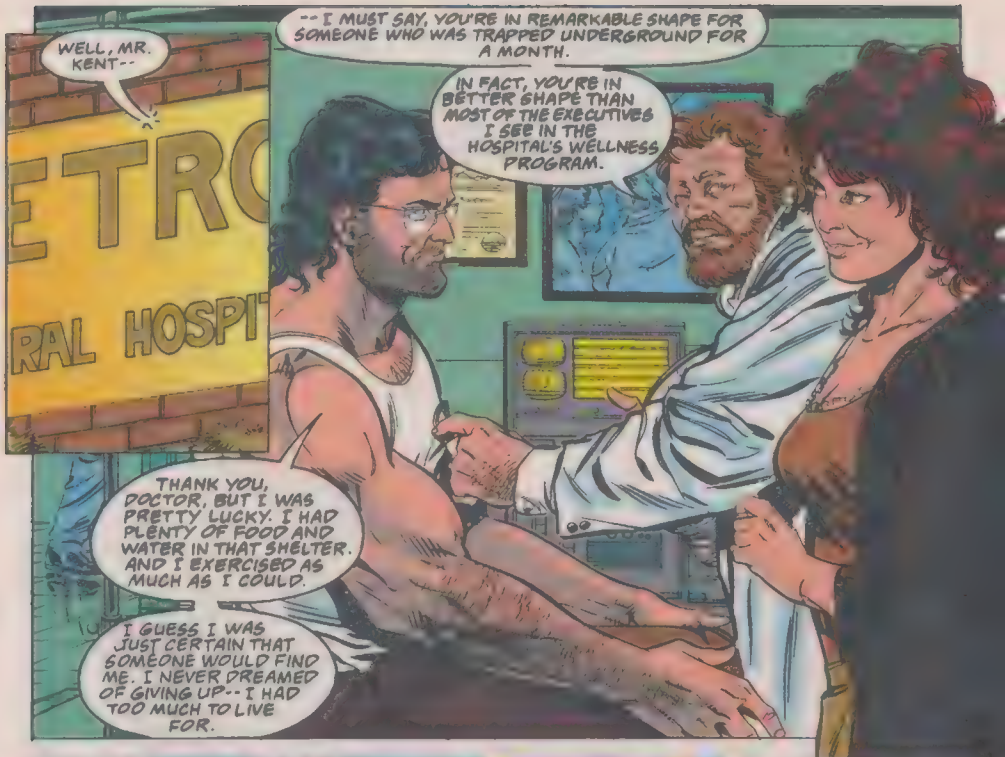


WHY, YOU SANCTIMONIOUS BERK! IT IS YOU!

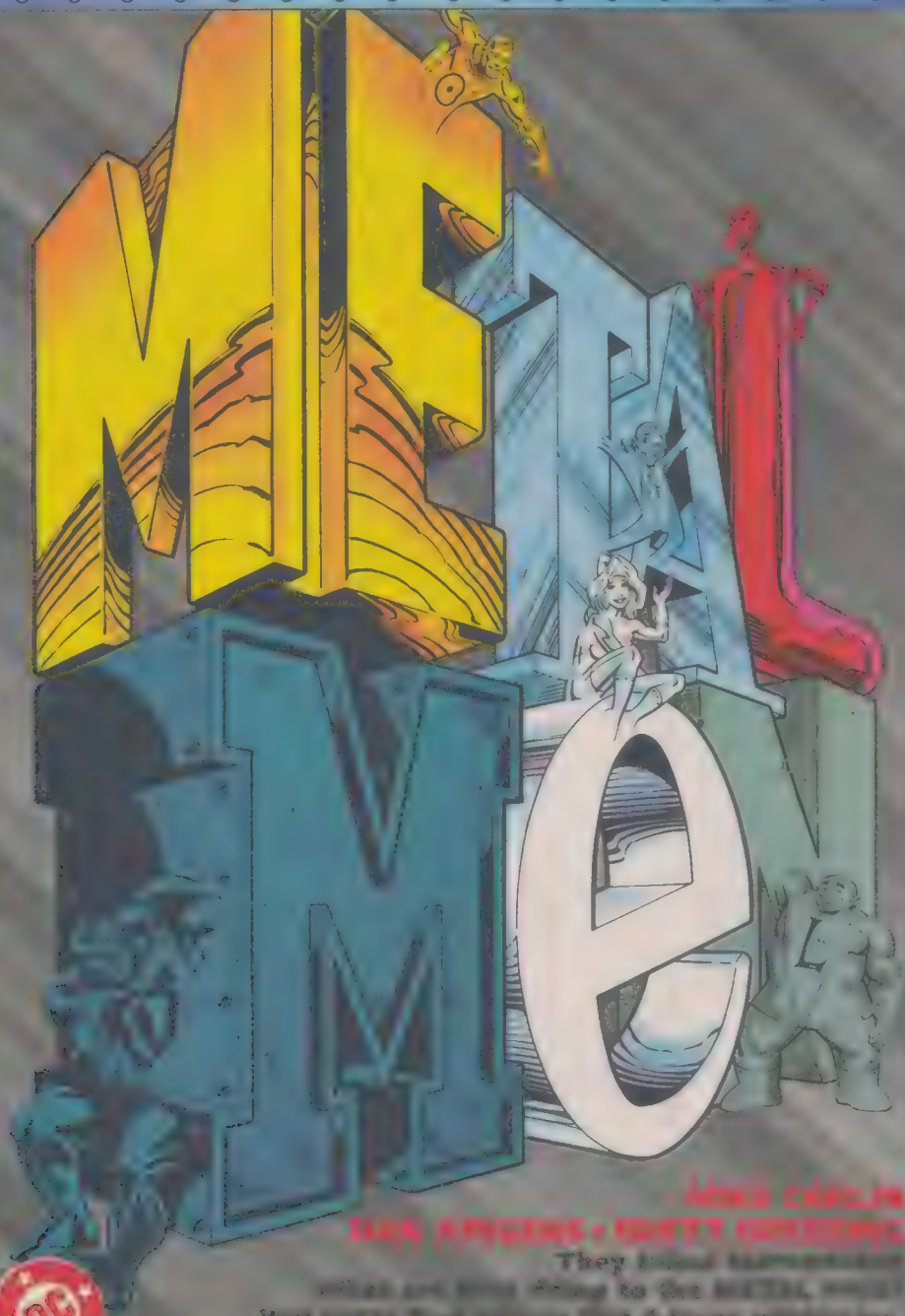
EXCUSE ME, MR. L?

I WAS JUST SAYING THAT I BELIEVE THAT OUR FLYING FRIEND IS GENUINE. MERTON DOOMSDAY DIDN'T KILL HIM AFTER ALL...

... WHICH MEANS I'LL HAVE MY CHANCE YET!



FORGED ANEW!



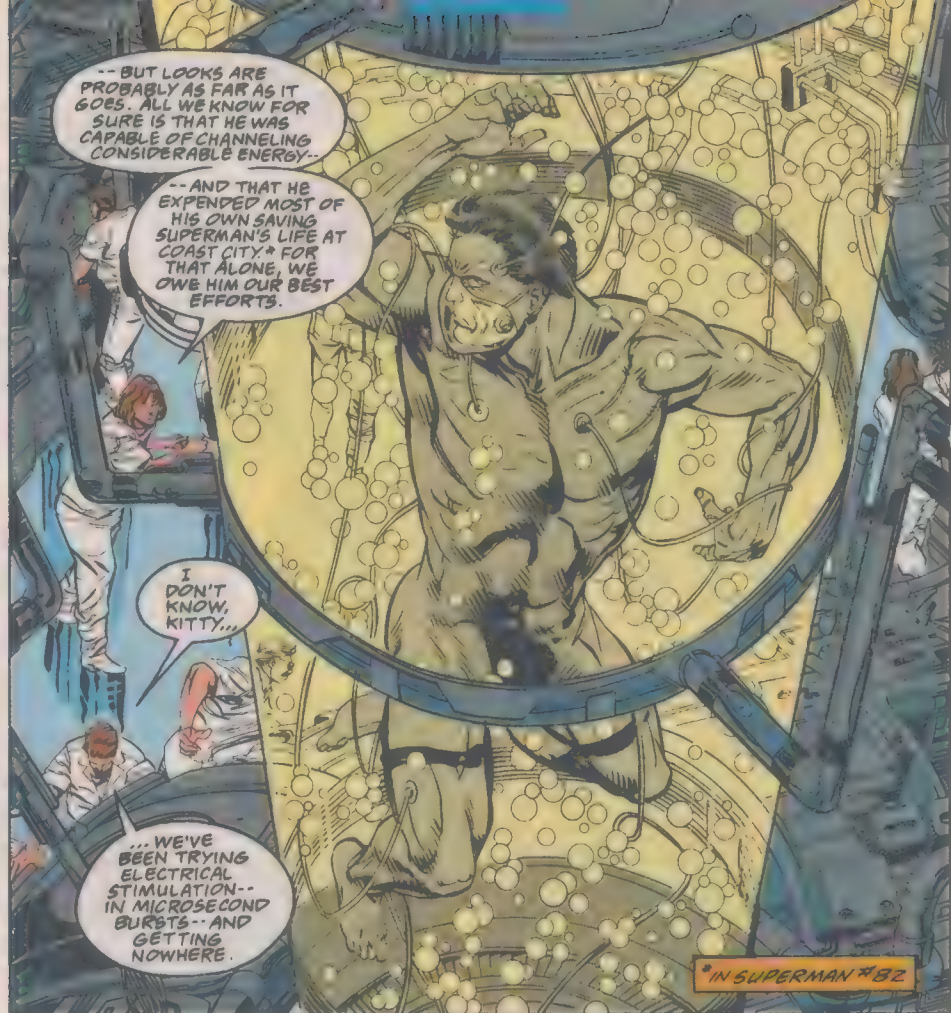
NEW COLORS
NEW ARTISTS • FIFTY PAGES

They found themselves

what are they doing to the METAL world?

More great new stories than 40-page comic books.

On sale in September.



-- BUT LOOKS ARE PROBABLY AS FAR AS IT GOES. ALL WE KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT HE WAS CAPABLE OF CHANNELING CONSIDERABLE ENERGY--

-- AND THAT HE EXPENDED MOST OF HIS OWN SAVING SUPERMAN'S LIFE AT COAST CITY* FOR THAT ALONE, WE OWE HIM OUR BEST EFFORTS.

I DON'T KNOW, KITTY...

... WE'VE BEEN TRYING ELECTRICAL STIMULATION-- IN MICROSECOND BURSTS-- AND GETTING NOWHERE.

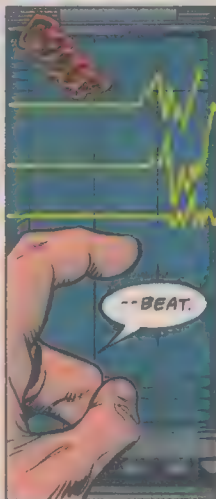
*IN SUPERMAN #82



THEN LET'S UP THE VOLTAGE, PAVE.

ALL RIGHT, YOU'RE THE BOSS. BUT I STILL SAY THIS IS A WASTE OF OUR PRECIOUS TIME.

LOOK AT THESE MONITORS-- THERE ARE FLAT LINES ACROSS THE BOARD! NO NEUROMUSCULAR RESPONSE, NO UNASSISTED RESPIRATION, AND NOT A SINGLE SOLITARY HEART--



--BEAT.



YOU WERE SAYING, DR. CONNOR?

SONUVAGUN. I DON'T BELIEVE IT, BUT HE'S ALIVE. THE ERADICATOR'S STILL ALIVE!

"WELL, NOW..."

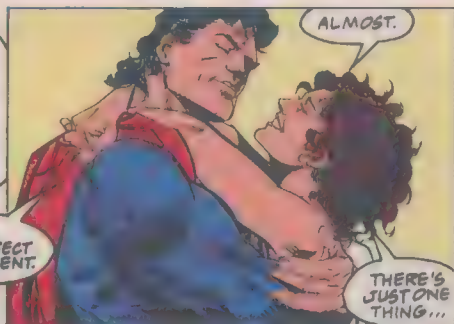




I WIN, EH?

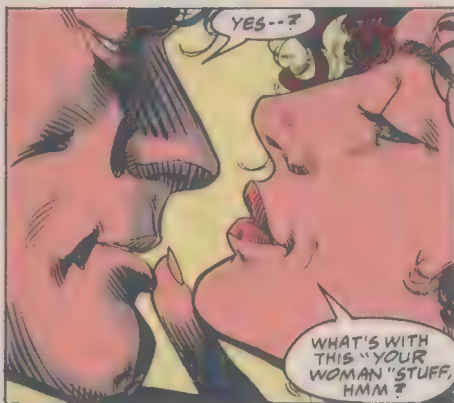
I'D SAY THAT WE ALL WON. YOU'RE ALIVE AND WELL, CLARK KENT IS ALIVE AND WELL, AND THE WHOLE WORLD SAW THE TWO OF YOU ON CAMERA TOGETHER.

SOUNDS LIKE A PERFECT ARRANGEMENT.



ALMOST.

THERE'S JUST ONE THING...



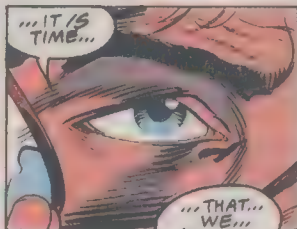
YES--?

WHAT'S WITH THIS "YOUR WOMAN" STUFF, HMM?



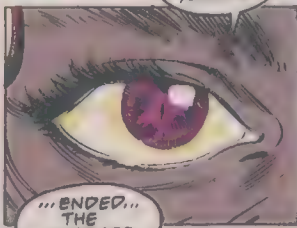
HAH-HA-HA! THAT'S TELLING HIM, LOIS! DON'T LET ANYONE TAKE YOU FOR GRANTED--NOT EVEN SUPERMAN!

HE'S RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING, THOUGH...



...IT IS TIME...

...THAT... WE... EHHN...



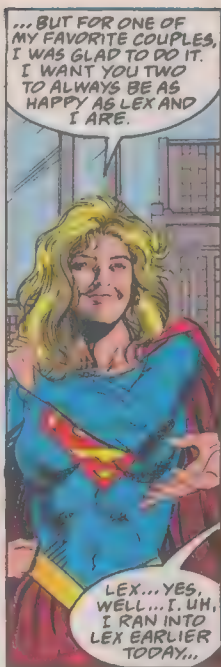
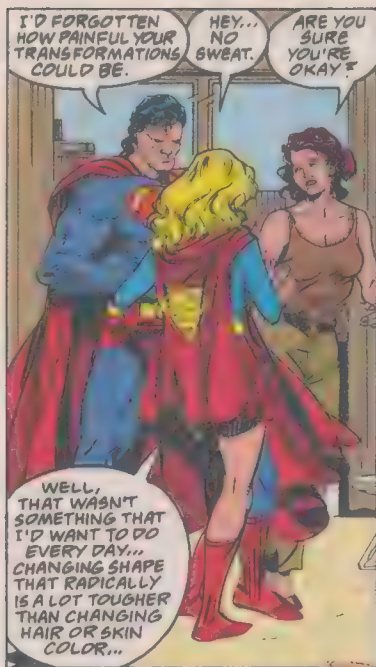
...ENDED... THE CHARADE...

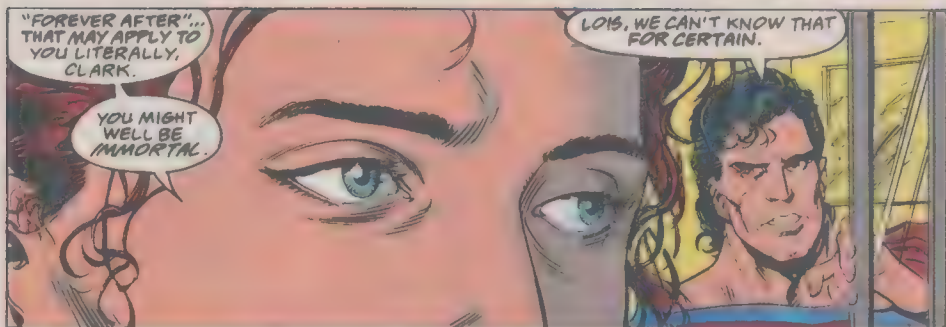


...OR, SHOULD I SAY, THE MASQUERADE?

OWW! YES, I MUCH PREFER THIS SHAPE!

SUPERGIRL, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

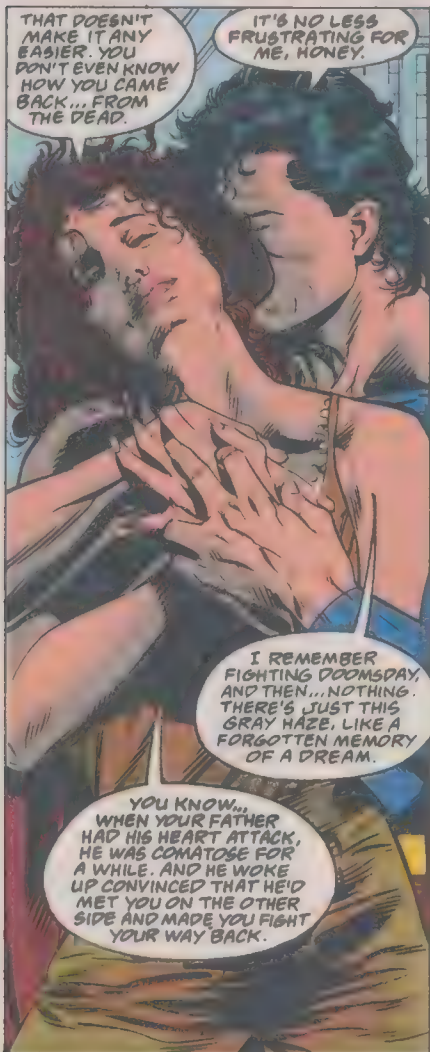




"FOREVER AFTER" THAT MAY APPLY TO YOU LITERALLY, CLARK.

YOU MIGHT WELL BE IMMORTAL.

LOIS, WE CAN'T KNOW THAT FOR CERTAIN.

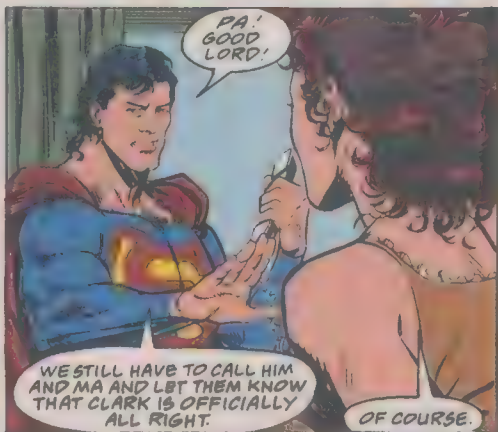


THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY EASIER. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW YOU CAME BACK... FROM THE DEAD.

IT'S NO LESS FRUSTRATING FOR ME, HONEY.

I REMEMBER FIGHTING DOOMSDAY, AND THEN... NOTHING. THERE'S JUST THIS GRAY HAZE, LIKE A FORGOTTEN MEMORY OF A DREAM.

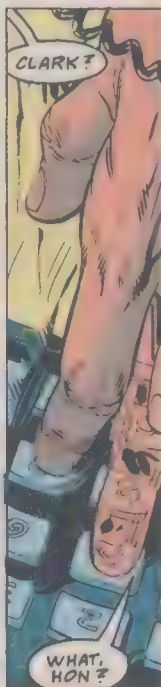
YOU KNOW... WHEN YOUR FATHER HAD HIS HEART ATTACK, HE WAS COMATOSE FOR A WHILE. AND HE WOKE UP CONVINCED THAT HE'D MET YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE AND MADE YOU FIGHT YOUR WAY BACK.



PA! GOOD LORD!

WE STILL HAVE TO CALL HIM AND MA AND LET THEM KNOW THAT CLARK IS OFFICIALLY ALL RIGHT.

OF COURSE.



CLARK?

WHAT, HON?



I'VE BEEN THINKING... MAYBE YOU DIDN'T REALLY DIE.

MAYBE YOU CAN'T DIE.



OH, HE CAN DIE. ALL RIGHT...

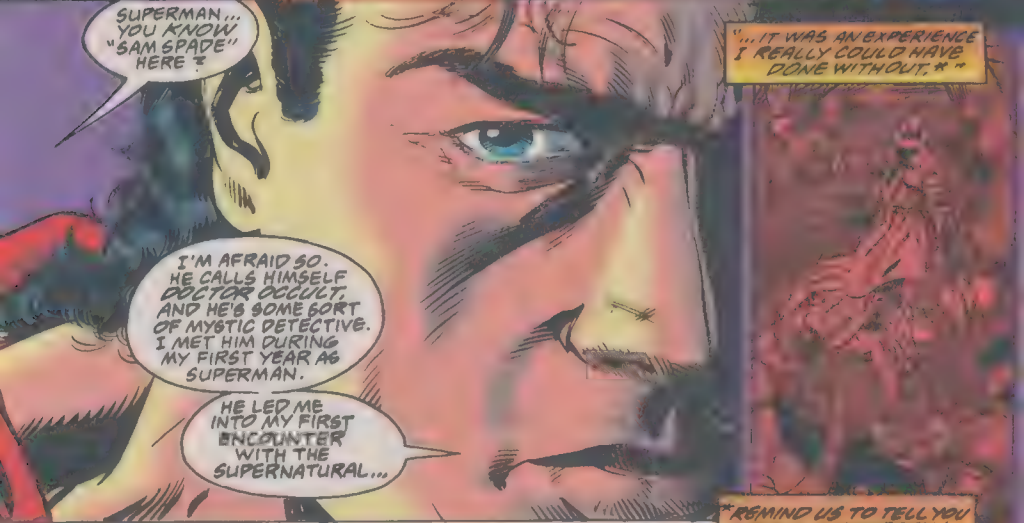
EH?



...HE'S
JUST VERY
HARD TO
KILL.

WHA--?!
WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
MY APARTMENT?!
WHERE ARE
WE?

OCULT!
I HOPED THAT
I'D SEEN THE
LAST OF YOU!
WHAT'S THE
BIG IDEA?



SUPERMAN...
YOU KNOW
"SAM SPADE"
HERE?

...IT WAS AN EXPERIENCE
I REALLY COULD HAVE
DONE WITHOUT.*

I'M AFRAID SO.
HE CALLS HIMSELF
DOCTOR OCULT,
AND HE'S SOME SORT
OF MYSTIC DETECTIVE.
I MET HIM DURING
MY FIRST YEAR AS
SUPERMAN.

HE LED ME
INTO MY FIRST
ENCOUNTER
WITH THE
SUPERNATURAL...

*REMIND US TO TELL YOU
ABOUT IT SOMEDAY*



HE
DISAPPEARED
AFTER THAT.

I THOUGHT THAT I
WAS RID OF HIM.

DOCTOR
OCCULT?
YOU'RE
JOKING,
RIGHT?



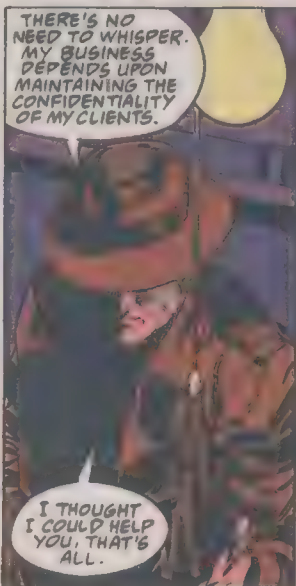
I KNOW IT SOUNDS A
LITTLE MELODRAMATIC,
MS. LANE, BUT IT SUITS
ME. BESIDES, IT'S REALLY
MORE OF A TITLE OR JOB
DESCRIPTION THAN A
NAME...

...MUCH AS KENT
HERE IS KNOWN AS
SUPERMAN--THANKS
TO YOU, IF I'M NOT
MISTAKEN.



WHO IS THIS GUY,
AND HOW DOES HE
KNOW SO MUCH?

I WISH I KNEW.
ALL I COULD UNCOVER
ABOUT HIM WAS A BRIEF
MENTION IN THE DAILY
PLANET'S ARCHIVES...
FROM A STORY DATING
BACK TO 1935!



THERE'S NO
NEED TO WHISPER.
MY BUSINESS
DEPENDS UPON
MAINTAINING THE
CONFIDENTIALITY
OF MY CLIENTS.

I THOUGHT
I COULD HELP
YOU, THAT'S
ALL.



OH?
AND WHAT
WILL IT
COST US?

GOOD
QUESTION,
MS. LANE.
THE FEE
CAN BE
HIGH--



--AND
DEARER THAN
EITHER OF YOU
COULD EVER
IMAGINE!

KLIK

BUT I'VE
ALREADY PAID
THE PRICE FOR
YOU... I PAID IT
IN FULL LONG
AGO.

CLARK,
WHAT'S
GOING ON?
I FEEL...SO
STRANGE!

SO DO I...

OCCULT, I'M
WARNING YOU--
IF YOU'VE PLACED
LOIS IN ANY
DANGER--!

DANGER IS WHAT
LIFE'S ABOUT, SUPERMAN--
BUT YOU TWO SHOULD
COME THROUGH THIS ALL
RIGHT--IF YOU STAY
CLOSE AND DO AS I
SAY.

NOW, WHERE'S
THAT FLASHLIGHT? AH,
HERE IT IS...

WITCH

...NOW, I BELIEVE YOU AND
MS. LANE BOTH WANTED TO KNOW
HOW YOU MANAGED TO COME BACK
FROM THE BEYOND.

TO FULLY UNDERSTAND
THAT, WE HAVE TO START
AT THE BEGINNING...WITH
YOUR FIGHT AGAINST
DOOMSDAY

WHAT--?
YOU'VE TAKEN
US BACK INTO
THE PAST?

NOT EXACTLY. IT'S
MORE LIKE WE'RE OFF
TO ONE SIDE OF TIME. IT
JUST MAKES PREVIOUS
EVENTS EASIER TO SEE...

YOU MONSTER! I THOUGHT
YOU SAID THAT YOU HAD PAID
THE PRICE--?

IT'S THE
JOURNEY THAT'S
ON ME, MS. LANE.
PAIN IS JUST
THE PRICE OF
LIVING.

ONLY
THE DEAD
FEEL NO
PAIN...

"...THE
EFFECTS OF
THE PAST,
AFTER ALL,
ARE ALWAYS
WITH US."

I...I'M
OKAY. JUST
FELT LIKE...
SOMETHING
KNOCKED THE
STUFFING
OUT OF ME.

ANOTHER
EFFECT OF THE
PAST, I'M
AFRAID. AS WE
GO ALONG THE
PATH, YOU'LL
RELIVE THE
ORDEAL...

...WITH LUCK,
IT'LL BE EASIER
THE SECOND TIME
AROUND.

!ARRGGH!!

CLARK!
WHAT'S
WRONG?!

THE DEMON™ ANNUAL #2

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

BLOODLINES

DEATHSTORM



New Heroes. New Villains. New Blood.

NEW HEROES. NEW VILLAINS. NEW BLOOD.

DEATHSTROKE.
THE TERMINATOR ANNUAL #2
SHIPPING AUGUST 31

ECLIPSO ANNUAL #1
SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 7

THE DEMON ANNUAL #2
SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 14

BATMAN: LEGENDS OF
THE DARK KNIGHT ANNUAL #4
SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 21

TEAM TITANS ANNUAL #1
SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 28

L.E.G.I.O.N. 93' ANNUAL #4
SHIPPING OCTOBER 5

BLOOD LINES

DEATHSTORM





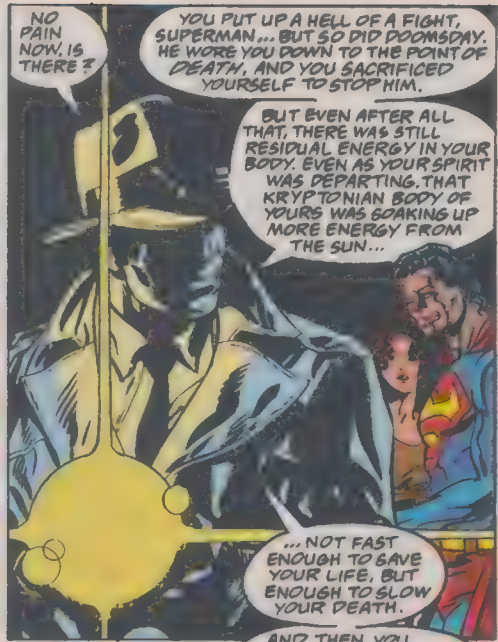
...REMEMBER?

PLEASE HANG ON! THE PARAMEDICS WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND! PLEASE!

DOOMSDAY... IS HE... IS HE...

YOU STOPPED HIM! YOU SAVED US ALL! NOW RELAX UNTIL--!

SUPERMAN? SUPERMAN?!



NO PAIN NOW, IS THERE?

YOU PUT UP A HELL OF A FIGHT, SUPERMAN... BUT SO DID DOOMSDAY. HE WORE YOU DOWN TO THE POINT OF DEATH, AND YOU SACRIFICED YOURSELF TO STOP HIM.

BUT EVEN AFTER ALL THAT, THERE WAS STILL RESIDUAL ENERGY IN YOUR BODY. EVEN AS YOUR SPIRIT WAS DEPARTING, THAT KRYPTONIAN BODY OF YOURS WAS SOAKING UP MORE ENERGY FROM THE SUN...

...NOT FAST ENOUGH TO SAVE YOUR LIFE, BUT ENOUGH TO SLOW YOUR DEATH.

AND THEN, YOU GOT A LITTLE HELP FROM THE PARAMEDICS... AND FROM OTHERS.

FIRE UP YER ENERGY SHED, PERFESSER. I'M READY FOR DA FIRST ROUND.



ARE YOU CERTAIN THAT YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO, BIBBO?

HEY, NO ONE'S GONNA MISS A PUG LIKE ME IF THINGS GO BAD--





GYAAAH!

MY FLASH--!

THE HELL WITH YOUR FLASH!

THIS IS KILLING HIM ALL OVER AGAIN!

YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS--NOW!



IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE, MS. LANE. ONCE WE'VE STARTED DOWN THIS ROAD, THERE CAN BE NO DETOURS--WE HAVE TO SEE THINGS THROUGH TO THE END.

AND I'LL NEED MY FLASH IF WE'RE EVER GOING TO GET THERE...



"...GO GET IT FOR ME... PLEASE! I'LL TEND TO SUPERMAN."

HOW CAN I TRUST HIM TO LOOK AFTER CLARK, WHEN HE CAN'T EVEN HOLD ONTO A SIMPLE FLASHLIGHT? BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

HMMPH! IT ROLLED A LOT FARTHER THAN I'D HAVE THOUGHT. NOW WHAT'S THIS? IT SEEMS ALMOST FAMILIAR...



OH!GOD! CLARK'S COFFIN--!



I'M SORRY THAT YOU HAD TO SEE THIS, MS. LANE.

NO... NOT ANYMORE.

THIS IS PART OF THE PAST. BELIEVE ME, I DIDN'T WANT TO PUT YOU THROUGH THIS...

BETTER GIVE ME THAT FLASH.

H-HE'S DEAD.



... BUT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND JUST HOW CLOSE HE CAME TO FINAL, IRREVERSIBLE DEPARTURE.

MAKE NO MISTAKE, HIS SPIRIT HAD FLED HIS BODY. THE ENERGIES STORED WITHIN THE BODY PRESERVED IT TEMPORARILY..

--STILL, SEALED OFF IN THAT TOMB, IT WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE PERISHED. AND THEN, THERE COULD HAVE BEEN NO RETURN.

CLARK!



L-LOIG?

F- FEEL SO COLD... ALMOST NUMB.

WITH HIS BODY IN THAT NULL STATE, HIS SPIRIT WAS TRAPPED BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE DEAD... AND BECAME PREY FOR ALL MANNER OF DEMONS.

HE NEEDED THE LIGHT OF THE SUN, NOT THE DARK OF THE GRAVE.

YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T STOP THIS. BUT... CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING ?!

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE, MS. LANE.

FORTUNATELY, THERE WERE
OTHER FORCES AT WORK,
AS WELL...

... FORCES FOR
GOOD. JONATHAN
KENT HAD SUFFERED
CARDIAC ARREST,
AND HIS SPIRIT
REACHED OUT TO
SUPERMAN'S.

"JONATHAN HELPED
HIS SON RESIST THE
DEMONS, AND CONVINCED
SUPERMAN TO FIGHT
HIS WAY BACK TO THE
LIVING

"JONATHAN'S
AID CAME NOT
A MOMENT TOO
SOON. SUPERMAN'S
ESSENCE RETURNED
TO HIS PHYSICAL
FORM... JUST AS
THE DISEMBODIED
INTELLIGENCE OF
THE ERADICATOR
BOUGHT TO CLAIM
IT

"HE REMOVED
SUPERMAN FROM
THE TOMB AND
PLACED HIM WITHIN
A KRYPTONIAN
REGENERATION
MATRIX, WHERE
HE WAS ABLE TO
ABSORB THE
RESTORING
ENERGIES OF
EARTH'S SUN.

"... BUT IN
THE END, HE
SACRIFICED
HIMSELF...
IN MIND, IF
NOT IN BODY...

YES, I AM
RESTORED. THE
PAIN, THE COLD,
EVERYTHING
HAS PASSED. I
FEEL STRONGER
THAN EVER!

ARE YOU
SAVING... IF
SUPERMAN IS
EVER ABOUT TO
... TO DIE AGAIN...
ALL WE HAVE
TO DO IS MAKE
SURE HE GETS
PLENTY OF
SUN--"



"DENIED THE BODY, THE ERADICATOR
STILL TAPPED INTO ITS STORED
ENERGIES AND USED THEM TO
TRANSMUTE MATTER WITHIN THE
TOMB INTO A NEW FORM FOR HIMSELF.



"TRUE, THE
ERADICATOR
STOLE SOME
OF THOSE
ENERGIES
AND ASSUMED
THE ROLE OF
SUPERMAN...



"AND THEN, HE SAVED SUPERMAN'S LIFE.

LEGION

OF SUPER-HEROES

ARCHIVES • VOLUME 3



Re-presenting classic stories
from the Legion's fabled past...and future.

© TM & © DC Comics, Inc. 1993



All Rights Reserved

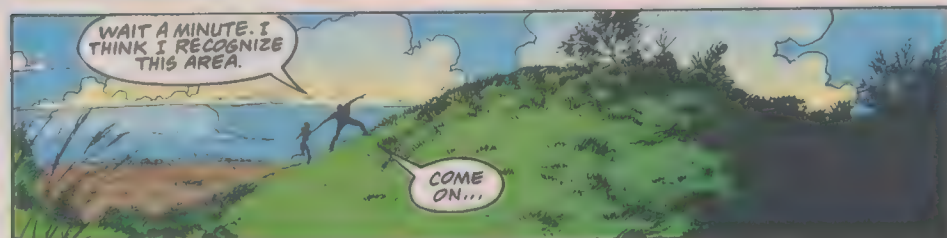
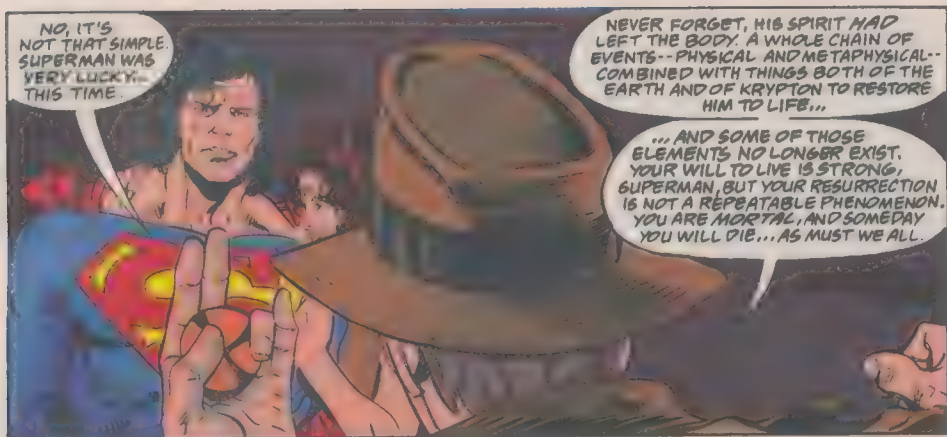
DC UNIVERSE

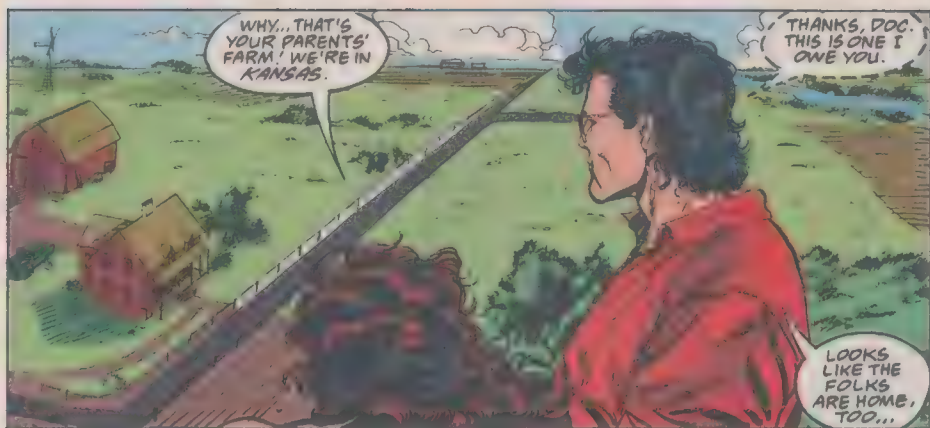
B

THE COUNTDOWN
HAS BEGUN

ZERO HOUR™

BE PREPARED





RE:ACTION

DC COMICS

1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019

JENETTE KAHN, President & Editor-in-Chief

PAUL LEVITZ, Executive VP & Publisher

MIKE CARLIN, Editor

FRANK PITTARESE, Associate Editor

JOE ORLANDO, VP-Creative Director

TOM BALLOU, VP-Advertising

BRUCE BRISTOW, VP-Sales & Marketing

PATRICK CALDON, VP-Finance & Operations

TERRI CUNNINGHAM, Managing Editor

CHANTAL D'AULNIS, VP-Business Affairs

LILLIAN LASERSON, VP-Legal Affairs

BOB ROZAKIS, Executive Director-Production

Dear Editor:

Re: ACTION COMICS #688

Ah, so the Last Son of Krypton is finally realizing that his crime-fighting methods are evil and that there is more behind the legacy of the big red "S" than he realized! Who would have thought Guy Gardner could do so much good unintentionally...and still get people mad at him!

By the way, kudos to Guice and Rodier for giving us better-than-usual artwork...we should see them draw Guy more often!

Jacob Huebert
North Lima, OH

Dear Re:Action:

You have done a great job with your awesome new Superman. Of all the new Supermen, yours is my favorite, followed by the teenage Superman. I loved the Guy Gardner team-up, but it was kinda geeky when he turned into a knight. Howabout more team-ups with the likes of Lobo, Booster Gold or Fire?

I bet this new Superman could kick Doomsday's butt all the way to where Krypton used to be.

MIKEY Marehand
Belleville, IL

Dear Editors:

My first letter ever to your staff is bittersweet. I will start with the bad news first. The Last Son of Krypton, as unbelievable as it may sound, crashed into my living room while I was sorting through my comics. With lightning speed he grabbed a handful of the valuable, mint condition comics and said, "Your comics collection is passing through the fire and the darkness and is now refined! Continue to follow my never-ending battle!" He then tore these non-DC comics into the worthless shreds that I have sent to you for evidence. (I suppose the reason he was in Illinois was to see the huge Superman statue that was recently dedicated in the city of Metropolis, Illinois.) I asked for compensation for the damage that occurred at his hands. I hinted at getting a trip to his fortress or a pair of his cool visors but he said he couldn't answer either request. He told me to contact you, his spokespersons, concerning a platinum SUPERMAN #75. This of course was comforting, but I was not going to argue with a superhero who seemed to be a cross

between Jack Dempsey, Darth Vader, and the original caped crusader. In fact, he cemented my decision to collect more DC titles, which I previously regarded as mediocre. I must admit before the Doomsday storyline I had only bought a few DC comics, and didn't own any SUPERMAN titles. Since this landmark series started I have bought every single issue, including multiple copies of some, and crossovers. I cannot wait to get to the comic-book store, and often read the new issues outside the store. DC is number one and is getting the respect that the company has always deserved. Looking at back issues I find I have been missing out on good writing, art and creativity. It is sad that someone has to die before receiving the proper attention they should have received before their death. I will not be like some collectors who are planning on reserving the SUPERMAN titles only until the "Supermen" storyline is resolved. I think SUPERMAN is only going to get better and more interesting. One last thought concerning the Last Son. I don't know if the vigilante could be the real Superman changed and transformed. I mean, who could really blame him? If you died at the hands of the brutal Doomsday and came back from the dead, you might be altered. But even if he is a false Superman, it is ironic how he might have been successful at killing Doomsday and surviving the fight. My theory is, being the solitary warrior that the Last Son is, he wouldn't have let the other heroes interfere, resulting in the use of the monster's right hand. Given the fact that Superman's blows eventually knocked out the creature, I conclude that the Man of Steel could have won against Doomsday with his two fists against his enemy's one. Regardless, I eagerly await the conclusion of "The Reign of the Supermen" and whatever twist the story takes. Thank you for your comics creations and your time. Just try to keep an eye on the big guy. I enjoyed his visit, but I don't know all of his dislikes and wouldn't want him refining anything else I own. Until the Last Son and Guy Gardner bake cookies together, make mine DC!

Joel Friz
Waterloo, IL

We're really sorry about your comics, Joel. Unfortunately the Last Son of Krypton has been so busy

lately that he hasn't had time to keep up with what's going on around our offices, namely, that our platinum SUPERMAN #75 giveaway is over. However, all is not lost: for bravery in the line of fire (Superman can be pretty scary when he's riled up), and for having the good taste to enjoy our titles, we officially bestow upon you our one and only Baldy award! Coming soon to a mailbox near you!

Dear Mike:

It's amazing how things work out. Guy Gardner agreeing with "Shades" as he called Superman on page 14. This new "Last Son of Krypton" is definitely a cool character! I think he has a cool costume. It was mean what Superman did to the safecracker (ouch!), but the part I liked the most was on page 19, when Superman wasted the punks and Guy was sitting back and watching them get wasted. See ya next time.

Chris Kohler
Lake Arrowhead, CA

Dear ACTION:

It is truly difficult to put my feelings on paper, but I must try now. I am not going to kid you and say that I have been a huge fan of Superman all my life. I have not. I, like many other people, enjoyed watching the movies, cartoons, and television shows but the importance of the character never went beyond that. Until now.

When Superman died, I was in shock. Of course, I knew about his death months in advance, but to actually see it on paper was heartbreaking. With that one event, you showed me and millions of other people what Superman has truly meant to us over the years. Superman was more than a colorful comic-book hero, or even a crusader for truth and justice. He was the embodiment of all that is good in the human race and he is what we all strive to be.

But now, with the introduction of four radically different Supermen, you have given the world an important question to ponder: What makes a Superman?

This question came to me after I finished reading all four comics that introduced your new Superman. I was trying to figure out which one of the four could truly be the Man of

Steel when this question popped into my head. What is it about Superman that makes him Superman? In order to find out, I went back and carefully examined each of the four characters.

First, there is the Last Son of Krypton. While several of his qualities certainly do not match the Superman we all have grown up with, like his coldness and brutality, he carries with him the strong desire to see justice done. This combined with his determination to carry out his mission of justice are large parts of Superman's persona. But does that make him a Superman? No.

Second, there is the Man of Steel. His strong qualities are: the courage to stand up to any odds, the nobility of his actions, and friendliness towards others, which to me is the most important of all. But do these make a Superman? Again, no.

Third, there is the Man of Tomorrow. His (or its) most redeeming qualities are determination and, believe it or not, innocence. This innocence has always been a part of Superman that I have always liked. No matter what evil he faces and no matter what horrible things he sees, he always believes that there is good in everything and everyone. And while this quality is a strong one, it does not make this individual a Superman.

Finally, there is the Metropolis Kid. I must admit, I had a heck of a time trying to find something good about this one. I finally came to the conclusion that the quality he had was just pure spunk. When the situation called for it, Superman would always dive into the thick of things without thinking about his own welfare, and this kid does the same. But that alone definitely doesn't make him a Superman.

After I was finished, I was puzzled. Was one of these men supposed to be Superman? While each one had certain qualities that Superman had, none of them could match up to him and there was still one thing missing. The problem was, I didn't know what. I found it in ACTION #688 and this made me decide that the Last Son of Krypton was definitely Superman. On the last page, the Last Son wonders about his method and if he is misusing his powers. He thinks about changing his methods but above all, **he wants to do what is right.** And that is the one quality of Superman that makes him a Superman. I congratulate you, DC, for the thought you have put into the saga that is Superman and for bringing the Superman legacy back to where it belonged: the comics page.

Daniel L. Frazier
Paintsville, KY

Dear Mike and Friends:

Well, we now know which Superman is the real one: the one we'll see this fall on ABC. What a surprise

to see that Supes is finally making it to network TV, especially considering that the public at large does not know that he's back. *Lois & Clark*, eh? I hope that it doesn't change things too much, and I hope it has room for the supporting cast you've engineered. I also hope that TV has the guts to marry the couple, something you'd better do soon. In any case, it's ironic. Supes is only the latest dead hero to get a series. First Superboy, then Barry Allen (Flash), and now Clark. Heck, even Swamp Thing is technically dead. No wonder Green Lantern and Green Arrow have never been honored on TV.

Meanwhile, we've got Guy. He's always been full of irony. Supes has to die for Guy to respect him. He'll have to lose his ring for me to actually respect Guy. And then he gives his wholehearted support to "the fascist." And our hero hasn't wanted the Guy Guy's help. Oy.

I'm glad to see that the Last Son of Krypton is reconsidering his methods because of Guy. It also seems that Clark's speech patterns, and even his sense of humor, are starting to resurface. Maybe this one really is the one true Superman. He's quite interesting so far. I look forward to his meeting with John Henry next month. They're complete opposites, and the battle should be a good one.

More important is the truce between Henderson and Maggie. I'm glad to see that Bill Henderson has finally made it to the top, and I'm glad to see that his reasons for not liking Maggie were honorable. I had suspected that he just didn't like the idea of an SCU when he had to use normal weapons and old-fashioned detective work. It's good to see these two well-conceived characters finally being friends. I hope that Bill is up to the task. But if a lowly captain could do the job in Gotham, an inspector can do it in Metropolis. And while I'm partial to Bill, who's been around since the first TV show, Maggie is deserving of that SCU miniseries we're waiting for. Where is it?

All in all, I'd say that you've got the ball rolling again. I hope that you make things clear soon. You've got till premiere night, by which time you'd better be ready for millions of new readers. See you in seven.

Simon DelMonte
Queens, NY

Funny you should mention TV shows and our supporting cast, Simon...the folks down at LOIS & CLARK in Hollywood, California have been going way out of their way to include us writers, editors and artists in on planning the show. Debrah Joy Levine, one of the producers for Lorimar Television and writer of the two-hour pilot episode, has met with the writers several times, and a representative from the production staff, Nina Tassler, Director of Drama Development,

even came to our last notorious Super-Summit in May.

Our take on Metropolis and her residents has had a big influence on the tone of the show—Cat Grant, Ali the copy girl, Lex Luthor, businessman and even Inspector Henderson are all there. (We're working hard to get Bibbo a solo adventure, too.) At press time we've read several scripts and seen a fifteen-minute clip reel of the pilot and we think this could be big! Teri Hatcher as Lois is great...and Dean Cain as Clark ain't so shabby himself!

Hope you'll do as these kinds of hype spots have always asked and...check your local listings for the debut of LOIS & CLARK in your home town. But do it soon—any minute the never-ending battle comes to ABC television each and every week...just like your favorite line of comics, SUPERMAN!

—Jennifer Frank
Stars in My Eyes

NEXT WEEK: MAN OF STEEL #27 flies into your local comics store as our focus turns to Clark and Lois's new lease on life together! Louise Simonson, Jon Bogdanove and Dennis Janke will also show us what the future holds for Steel, Luthor II and Bloodthirst (Who?!). In a meager seven days!

IN TWO WEEKS: SUPERMAN #83 gathers some of the world's greatest heroes to pay their last respects to the lost population of Green Lantern's home town of Coast City. Dan Jurgens and Brett Breeding deliver the eulogy in fourteen days!

IN THREE WEEKS: ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #506 sends the whole city of Metropolis after Superboy! At least it seems that way when Guardian, Superman and others try to bring the Boy of Steel back to Project Cadmus! Karl Kesel, Tom Grummett and Doug Hazlewood do their level best to help catch the Metropolis Kid in just twenty-one days!

IN ONE MONTH: ACTION COMICS #693 brings the final fate of the Kryptonian Eradicator to the world as S.T.A.R. Labs operates to save the alien device! Roger Stern, Jackson Guice and Denis Rodier are the doctors responsible for keeping the Eradicator alive. Wish them luck in twenty-eight days!

This month's cover shows Clark Kent back in ACTION—literally! Thanks to a sketch by Ed Hannigan, pencils by Kerry Gammill, inks by Jackson Guice and colors by Denis Rodier. Hey, it takes a lot more guys to draw in all that extra hair on Clark's new 'dol!

The year is 2018, and Nathan Bridger captains seaQuest on an adventure through our last true frontier — the earth's oceans. This science-fiction mission takes us on a journey through the uncharted world that lies just beyond our shores.



seaQuest

DSV

Starring Roy Scheider

From Amblin Television
and Universal Television,
with Executive Producers
Steven Spielberg and David Burke.

SUNDAYS
8PM



BENEATH THE SURFACE LIES THE FUTURE

PLAYERS ARE ARMED AND WIRELESS! APPROACH WITH EXTREME CAUTION...

TWO WIRELESS CONTROLLERS AND INFRARED RECEIVER

- INDEPENDENT 2-SPEED TURBO FOR ALL BUTTONS
- SLOW MOTION & AUTO-FIRE
- AUTO BATTERY SHUT-OFF
- ACCURATE UP TO 25 FEET
- HEAD-TO-HEAD CAPABILITY



FOR SEGA GENESIS™ AND SUPER NES®

Acclaim® & Dual Turbo™ are trademarks of Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. © 1993 Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved. Nintendo, Super Nintendo Entertainment System and the official seals are registered trademarks of Nintendo of America Inc. © 1991 Nintendo of America Inc. Sega and Genesis are trademarks of Sega Enterprises, Ltd. Dual Turbo Remote System for SNES® and Genesis™ sold separately.

Acclaim
entertainment, inc.